

## January 11, 2021 Covid Narrative

Town Administrator Jim Boudreau said at 7:45 a.m. today (Jan. 11) the town started vaccinating its public safety employees. He said all public safety employees, who want to, will be vaccinated by the end of the week.

In February, during Phase 2, Step 2, of the vaccination rollout, water and sewer department employees, the DPW and teachers will be vaccinated.

The state has a three-phased vaccine rollout. For more visit: [mass.gov/covid](https://mass.gov/covid).

Mr. Boudreau said the town is waiting for guidance from the state on how the vaccine will be administered in Phase 2.

Since last Monday Scituate has seen 129 new Covid cases up from 119 the previous week. That number does not include Sunday. The town has a 7.93 positivity rating up from 5 percent last week. The town is still fully in the red on the state Covid map.

Due to the high Covid numbers, the Town Hall is open by appointment only. The library is available only for curbside drop-off and pick-up. This will continue for at

least another week as the town continues to monitor numbers.

Mr. Boudreau said while the vaccine is the beginning of the end of the pandemic, there is still a way to go. He urged everyone remain vigilant and follow the Covid safety guidelines.

The Cole Parkway marina project began today (Jan. 11). The project is expected to be complete by the start of the boating season.

The Cedar Point sewer project is underway making the area a mess. Expect the disruption there to go on for some time.

Bids for the clubhouse at Widows Walk are expected Wednesday (Jan. 13) and hopefully will come in within budget.

Supt. William Burkhead said on Tuesday, Jan. 5, the schools moved to the fully remote learning model for a two-week window. He said he believes that in-person learning is best for students but students and staff must be kept safe.

From Dec. 19 through Jan. 4, 18 students and 5 staff tested positive for the virus. Eleven more cases were

reported Jan. 4 and that day 300 students and 47 staff were absent. Ninety-five students were in quarantine and 17 staff, along with two high school sports teams and two youth sports programs.

He urged families to have conversations with their students about safety guidelines. For more visit Scituate Public Schools website: [Scituate.k12.ma.us](http://Scituate.k12.ma.us)

Burkhead also reflected on the events of Jan. 6 at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C.

He said his heart breaks for our country. The events did not reflect on who we strive to be as Americans. He hoped the crisis would be used as a teachable moment and that families would have candid conversations about not tolerating hate. More than ever we need healing, community and love. He said we are all Americans and should lean on each other for support and strength.

Select person Karen Canfield noted that the Board of Selectmen meets next Tuesday evening (Jan. 19). The Zoom link is on the website ([scituatema.gov](http://scituatema.gov)). Last week the board heard the quarterly water department report and held a discussion on what can be done to mitigate the impact of the wind turbine on its neighbors.

Next week, the meeting will review the Fiscal 2022 operating budget, the contract for the Humarock fire station, and review the contract for the Widows Walk clubhouse improvements.

Canfield expressed sadness at the loss of Peter Leavitt, who served as Town Moderator for 19 years as well as on multiple town committees. He passed away this month. She said he was a great man and would be missed. She sent condolences to his family.

Canfield reminded residents to take advantage of take-out service at Scituate restaurants and to buy gift cards at local retailers.